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TO:

Docket Control Center

2009 JAN -8 A 10: 00

FROM:

Ernest G. Johnson

AZ CORP COMMISSION

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

JAN - 8 2009

DATE:

January 8, 2009

**Utilities Division** 

Director

**DOCKETED BY** 

RE:

**MOTION** FOR ASHCREEK WATER COMPANY -

**EXTENSION** 

COMPLIANCE DEADLINE (DOCKET NO. W-02494A-07-0681)

In Decision No. 70409, dated July 3, 2008, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") approved the application of Ashcreek Water Co. ("Ashcreek") for an extension of its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") for water service.

As part of Decision No. 70409, the Commission ordered that Ashcreek should:

"...file with Docket Control as a compliance item in this docket, a copy of the ADEQ Approval of Construction of the 20,000 gallon storage tank by December 31, 2008."

On December 9, 2008, Ashcreek docketed a letter to the Commission requesting a six month extension of time for the provision of the Approval of Construction ("AOC") for the above mentioned storage tank. In the attached request, the Company states that four pending easements were necessary as part of the transmission line portion of the above storage tank project. Two were already completed and the remaining two were still issues at the time of this application. These remaining issues have kept the storage tank from being bid and constructed and are the basis of the request for extension of time.

Per the application, the two remaining easement issues were in escrow but had real property attached to the transaction. One easement issue was simply awaiting authority of the Commission via the outcome of a pending Sale of Assets case (Docket No. W-02494A-08-0557). The other remaining easement issue involved the purchase of land necessary to develop a site for the 20,000 gallon storage tank project.

Staff contacted Mr. Bevan Barney, interim manager for Ashcreek, on December 31, 2008, to discuss the request for extension. Mr. Barney stated that he has continued to work on sorting out the easement issues since filing the application and has completed the effort related to the purchase of the storage tank site. He stated that the Sale of Assets case is out of his hands and that he is currently awaiting the Commission resolution on that case.

As the Sale of Assets case is currently pending and has no time clock attached, the completion date for that case is unknown. Considering that the bidding and construction of the 20,000 gallon storage tank must also be completed, the Company request for extension of time may need to be extended.

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Based on all of the above, Staff will not object to the Company's request for extension of time to comply with the above mentioned provision relating to the storage tank project. Staff recommends that the December 31, 2008 deadline for submission of the AOC for the 20,000 gallon storage tank be extended until December 31, 2009.

EGJ:BKB:lhm

Originator: Brian K. Bozzo

Attachment

SERVICE LIST FOR: DOCKET NO.

ASHCREEK WATER COMPANY W-02494A-07-0681

Mr. Bevan Barney Ashcreek Water Company Post Office Box 825 Thatcher, Arizona 85552

Mr. Ernest G. Johnson Director, Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Janice M. Alward Chief Counsel, Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Lyn Farmer Chief Administrative Law Judge Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

## ORIGINAL

## Ashcreek Water Company 965-2934 for emergencies

P.O. Box 825 Thatcher, AZ 85552 3776 Main St, Thatcher, AZ

428-3357 for billing questions 757 556 -9 5 428-5420 for all other contact

November 25, 2008

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Mike Gleason, Chairman Kristin K. Mayes William Mundell Jeff Hatch-Miller Gary Pierce

Re: Docket #

W-02494A-08-0557

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

DEC -9 2008

DOCKETEN BY

Ashcreek Water Company will not be able to comply with Decision #70409 of Docket # W-02494A-07-0681 which Orders Ashcreek Water Company to submit as a Compliance Item a copy of the ADEQ Approval of Construction of the 20,000 gallon storage tank by December 31, 2008. Ashcreek Water Company requests an extension of time to complete the requirement.

In addition it is further Ordered that the Decision #70409 granting the requested CC&N extension be considered null and void, after due process, should Ashcreek Water Company fail to meet the above condition within the time specified. Ashcreek Water Company also requests a similar extension of time before declaring the Extension of the CC&N null and void.

Reason: Four Easements were necessary prior to construction of the planned transmission line. Two of these have been secured and recorded. The additional two are presently in escrow and have real property attached. One of the escrows is waiting for a resolution of the Application For Sale of Assets, Docket # W-02494A-08-0557, and cannot proceed without action from the Commission. The other escrow is necessary to purchase a site to place the 20,000 gallon storage tank and coincident with the signing of an Easement across other land. This second transaction is expected to close the first week in December of 2008. Signatures necessary for both Estates and the heirs have been secured.

Corrective Action: Receive permission from the Commission to sell the asset in Docket # W-02494A-08-0557. Close both escrows, advertise for bids, monitor construction and secure "ADEQ Approval of Construction" to submit as a Compliance Item. These later tasks are within my control and can proceed at a reasonable pace.

**Duration:** The bid and construction process should move swiftly due to the downturn in economic activity in the area. ADEQ Approval to Construct will process at a normal pace. I request an additional 6 months of time to comply.

Very truly yours,

Bevan Barney, Interim Manager

Ashcreek Water Company